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Ecclesia Plantanda

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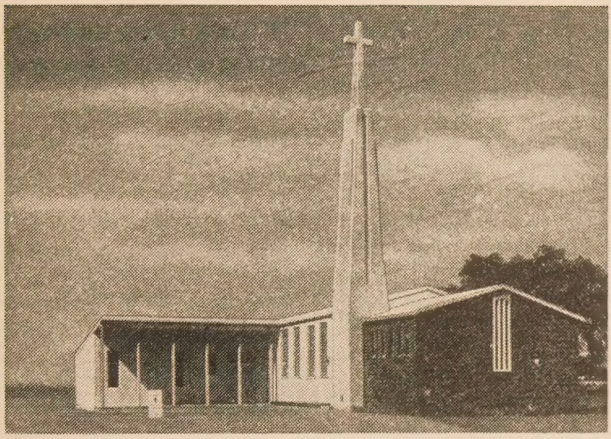

California. It is seldom that a picture of a church build-
oes justice to the architecture or gives a comprehensive
of the manner in which the structure blends or does
lend with the landscape or harmonize with the surround-
uildings. This statement is made because the two views
e new Luther Memorial Church at Burbank, California
ı are shown in this issue do not give a correct impres-
of the manner in which the modernistic exterior fits in
the other buildings in this area. The cover picture in
to convey height throws out of proportion the size of
uilding and the view at the beginning of this statement
der to give the full view of the building, presents even
rer picture of the size of the building. The interior of
hurch is in harmony with the customary forms to be
in our best churches throughout the United States.

The pastor of this congregation, Rev. L. A. Failing, has
a successful missionary of the Board of American Mis-
during his ministry except for the time he spent as a
ain with the armed forces in World War II. An unusual
re of the dedication of his California church is that it
dedicated just ten years to the very day after he dedi-
the new mission church of St. Peter's, Jamaica South,
Island, New York where he was pastor before he went
he chaplaincy.

Luther Memorial in Burbank is located in a former grape
ard and all around as far as the eye can reach, new
s are being built to provide for the overflow of people
ng out from Los Angeles. The builder of the new church
he Rev. Edward Spirer, who was a successful contractor
rchitect before he entered the ministry. Under his direc-
many members of the mission donated their labor thus
g hundreds of dollars in the cost of construction.

The congregation numbers 163 confirmed members and
veral months has been maintaining an average attend-

ance at the church service of 120 which is an exceptional rec ord. At the service of dedication the sermon was delivered by the Rev. Edward Spirer and the President of Synod, Dr J. F. Beasom, officiated, assisted by Rev. A. Schwartz of Los Angeles and Rev. Carl Tambert of Glendale and the pastor of the mission, Rev. L. A. Failing.

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Washington. The work at Kelso where organization was postponed until the great floods had subsided, has grown steadily. Pastor M. R. Anderson reports that at the beginning of the year the congregation resolved to undertake the payment of $100 monthly to the Synod on the property purchase made for the Church. The congregation also voted to pay $600 a year on the pastor's salary. The congregation suffered a loss recently when the Treasurer of the church was transferred to Alaska by his firm. His wife was President of the Women's organization. The experience which they received in the mission at Kelso caused them to resolve that if there were no Lutheran Church in the place to which they were being sent. they would start a Sunday School and keep it going until the church could get there.

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Tennessee. Holy Trinity, Newport, has cause for rejoicing in that being able to pay $1,187.50 on their loan from the Virginia Synod they received a donation of $1,000 from the Synod, thus reducing their indebtedness by $2,000. The Virginia Synod has established a Church Extension Fund for loans to congregations when the general Board is unable to help because it does not have the funds. Rev. L. L. Lineberger is the pastor at Newport.

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South Carolina. Few congregations are as fortunate as the Church of the Resurrection, Columbia, which already is erecting its church building. Rev. Virgil A. Cameron is the pastor and he writes that they hope to occupy the new church by Pentecost.

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New Jersey. It was a wise decision that the Advent mission at Mt. Ephraim made when they secured Rev. Wm. M. Weaver to supply their vacant pulpit. Even though Pastor Weaver was on the retired list his years of experience enable him to accomplish things in a brief period that would take much longer for a young man without experience. During the past quarter repairs and renovations to the interior of the church building which had been estimated would cost $3500 were made at a cost of only $1500 because of the large amount of donated labor and material. Sixteen new members were received on Palm Sunday.

Long Island. For some years Christ Church at Freeport maintained a Sunday School with church services at evelt, a development which adjoins the City of Freeport. ever, the shortage of ministers has made it very difficult eep an assistant pastor and with more than a thousand municant members in the Freeport church, Pastor D. G. eimer was unable to look after the work and asked the ion Committee of the Synod to establish a congregation is field. Missionary Superintendent Eugene C. Kreider over the field personally and was soon able to organize ngregation with 118 charter members with a Sunday ol of 135. The growth of this community gives the mis- a fine opportunity for future development. The oppor- ies in Long Island for mission congregations can be lled nowhere in the United States except in Los Angeles.

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Georgia. While there are some benefits arising out of ng parish properties to the local School Board when the ols are overcrowded, there are also some expenses arising the heavy use of the property. St. Luke's at Thunder- discovered this so Pastor P. L. Wahlberg reports. How- the required improvements were so advantageous to the regation that they gladly used the rent received in order ake the necessary changes. In addition the entire interior e church was given three coats of paint. This has added ly to the attractiveness of the church. Renewed war ers has brought about the reactivation of the Chatham Field which adds to this congregation's opportunity for ce. Among those recently received in the mission was a er Romanist, and another was a Jew who accepted Chris- ty and was baptized.

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Indiana. After a long sojourn in rented halls the people t. Andrew's at Speedway are watching with deep inter- he progress in the erection of their new church building. growing mission had this year also to hold its Lenten ces in the homes of the members because they could not re the use of the Town Hall on week nights. Missionary e received sixteen adults into the membership of St. An- 's and confirmed six children on Palm Sunday. A more l growth is anticipated as soon as the new church build- is completed.

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New Jersey. One of the rather difficult and aged fields ew Jersey is at last approaching the day of self-support. Charles F. Rinck who recently became the pastor of the iamstown-Folsom parish has more than doubled the budget e parish and the attendance at the church services has in- ed by more than 100%.

Florida. The problems confronting missions in resor areas are many and their solution costly. All too frequentl the good accomplished by these missions is not understoo because it does not show in the local congregation. It is known fact that vacation periods seldom add to the religiou zeal of those who are able to leave home for an extended va cation. Therefore, the element of conservation of Christia living for visitors in a mission congregation in a resort are ought never to be overlooked.

Rev. R. A. Yount at St. Paul's, Tampa, had over 300 reg istered visitors in six months. This is one of the many con gregations ready to build at the outbreak of the war an which afterwards could not build on account of the inflate costs. In this mission it often happens that many worshipper have to be seated on chairs on the lawn where they hear bu see little of the altar or pulpit. The pastor has been mad happy by the purchase of a parsonage. The cost was reason able when viewed in the light of the present day inflation The offering for LWA the last Sunday in March amounte to $228. The Sunday School recently purchased a new type writer for the church office and has $383 left toward the co of a sound motion picture projector.

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Long Island. Some of our older missions that did no own parsonages are finding that the housing shortage ha reached them also and now they must purchase homes fo their pastors if they do not wish to face a vacant pulpit. Goo Shepherd mission at Bayside West faced this problem recentl and the congregation resolved to put on a campaign at onc to raise $15,000 for the purchase of a parsonage for thei pastor, the Rev. William R. Fuhlbruck.

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Ontario. A group of refugees from Latvia are very happ to find the Lutheran Church established in Sudbury. Mi sionary Seymour Cooper has already been in touch with mor than fifty of these people. At the first service held exclusivel for them more than 27 were present. Plans are being mad by Pastor Cooper to provide special services for these group In the meantime he is securing their attendance at the re ular church services. These refugees have shown a remark able ability in mastering the English language.

Missionary Cooper as President of Conference has bee requested to make an annual visitation of all of the churche of the conference. Several have already been visited. In add tion Pastor Cooper has conducted services over the local radi station. The receipts for the first quarter of this year su passed last year by 32% for current expenses, and 25% fo benevolence.

North Carolina. The growing advantages in the South-states of the United States for the location of factories lly brings Lutherans into the community where the fac-s are being relocated. This adds to the Board's responsi-ies at a time when the number of available competent ors is limited. Happily for the prospective field at New , a good man was found who was willing to undertake pioneer work. Rev. Rufus B. Cuthbertson entered the on the first of April last year. Two months later the service was held and steady progress made. In the early of 1949 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church was organized 64 charter members, 6 of whom were received by adult ism and 12 by confirmation. All the others had letters ransfer. The attendance at the organization service was with an offering of $326 to be used in buying a lot. Six nts were baptized at this service.

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Colorado. In our older aided fields where the congrega-is free of debt one of the first signs of a revived interest he part of the people is the repair and improvement of church property. From Canon City Pastor J. W. Peterson rts that almost $3,000 are being spent on the church ding. Already a new floor has been laid, new carpets new plumbing installed, the exterior and interior of the ding painted and the foundations underpinned and water-fed.

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Tennessee. At the conclusion of the first quarter of this Holy Trinity in Nashville has raised its quota in full Lutheran World Action and 43% of its 1949 apportion-t. The average attendance at services was the largest of quarter in the mission's history.

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Alberta. The missions in Canada are all beginning to the effect of the arrival of refugees from Europe. Pastor Iannemann serving the Androsan parish reports another ly arriving in this pioneer field and comments on their fulness. The three children are regular in their attend-at the catechetical class and the parents are to be found very church service.

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Pennsylvania. A mission that was long a problem but ch has now developed into a strong church is Nativity at ding. Pastor Luke S. Sweitzer writes that the attendance he Easter Day services totalled 1567 and that 52 new nbers were received that day. The congregation is obli-d to pay $500 on its church extension loan this year but tor Sweitzer says that the amount paid will be nearer 00.

Detroit. At the last service conducted by Field Missionary Spaid for the Advent mission now meeting in the Pitcher Public School, he had the pleasure of presenting the congregation with a check for $929, the offering taken in the churches of the Synod. Several Synods have this very excellent custom of making a gift to each new congregation. In some of the older bodies the amount given is always the same and is raised by special offerings. In the younger synods the offering is taken whenever a mission is organized and the amount is seldom the same.

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New York. In the Bronx section of New York City, Calvary loan mission celebrates its 25th year of struggle. This mission has experienced almost all the difficulties which can confront a mission. The present pastor, Rev. Franklin J. Schweiger, in his latest reports gives statistics to show that this anniversary year will demonstrate that at last the mission is taking its share of responsibility for the evangelization of the unsaved.

Among the encouraging features reported was the excellent start in the first quarter this year in meeting the double apportionment. The payment of the LWA quota in excess and the goodly number present at the congregational meeting were also indications of the changed outlook in the congregation. During the anniversary year the sum of $3,000 will be raised to repair the church property and one-third of the amount was secured in the first three months.

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Florida. The Lake City parish consisting of two congregations and served by the Rev. F. I. Fesperman is endeavoring to reach the unchurched in their communities through the use of visitation committees. Some promises to join the church were received and some unbaptized children discovered. The experience gained by the visitors will develop an aggressive group within the congregations that will not cease work until all the unchurched have been approached.

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Illinois. Grace Church at Richmond has completed the basement of its church at a cost of $1500. Missionary Harold L. Carlson reports 37 prospective members on his calling list.

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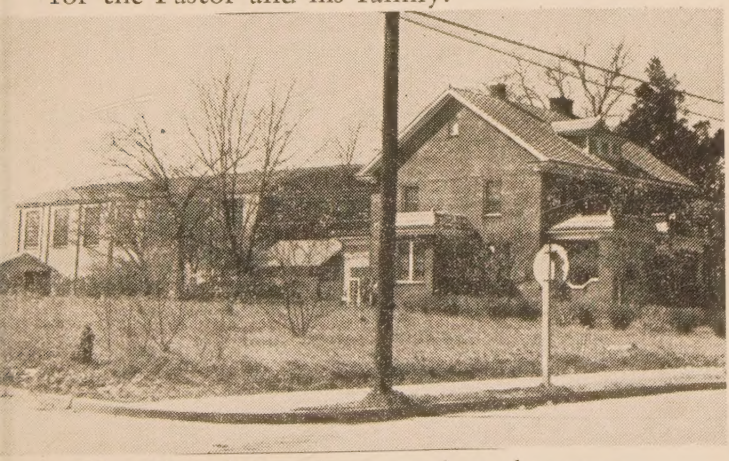
North Carolina. The development of successful missions in the mill towns of the south is among the most difficult phases of church work that confronts our missionaries. However, Rev. Herman G. Fisher is making good progress at Spindale. If his average attendance could be maintained in all our churches there would be a new day in religion. The

age attendance at services during the quarter was equal e membership of the congregation. The development at dale is interestingly shown in pictures taken from a folder h was used in canvassing the community.

The Congregation is now worshiping in a Chapel made from the living and dining rooms of the parsonage, which was purchased during the summer of 1948. The remaining rooms are used as living quarters for the Pastor and his family.



The Church is to be erected on the property pictured above adjoining the parsonage.

The property is on the Charlotte-Asheville Highway, No. 74. It is located in the heart of Spindale

California. There are two kinds of optimists found in the leadership of the church. One type is simply optimistic by nature and the public soon learns to discount their glowing prophecies. The other group is optimistic because they have discovered certain facts which give them a trustworthy basis for their hopes. To this class belongs the optimistic President of the California Synod, the Rev. Dr. James P. Beasom, who when making an optimistic statement always records in numbered array the facts which prompted his assertion.

In writing about the prospects of new congregations to be received at Synod this year which some months ago did not seem very good because of the scarcity of qualified Pastors, President Beasom in his communication produced facts to prove that counting the missions to be organized before the convention there would be a surprising total. While the charter rolls are still open the congregations that have reached the Board's requirement are:

Trinity Church, *Manhattan Beach*, Rev. George Ulrich, pastor, was organized with 82 names already on the charter list. Over one hundred people crowded in the meeting place and many stood for the entire service.

Church of Our Saviour, *Alhambra*, Rev. Walter Stuhr, pastor, was organized on the afternoon of the same day that saw Manhattan Beach come into official being. The present charter roll contains 58 names with more to follow.

St. Mark's Church, *San Fernando*, Rev. Homer Berner, Board Missionary in charge, will be organized before the Synod meets and already has the signature of 96 charter members on its roll.

Church of the Epiphany, *Ashland*, Rev. Franklin Swanson, Board Missionary, has signed up 70 charter members and will have 100 by the time this issue reaches our readers. The congregation has purchased a parsonage for Pastor Swanson.

The *Altadena* Lutheran Church put on a campaign to raise $10,000 for building a church and when the returns were all in the amount subscribed was $20,000.

The President of the California Synod has a firm foundation for his optimism.

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Maryland. After considerable delay Pastor Musser D. White reports that the parsonage for St. John's, East Riverdale, has been completed and the pastor and his family are happy, for now they are free from the fear of having to move every few months. A new subdivision is being built up near the church which will bring in many new prospects.

Pennsylvania. Just in time to be received into Synod this year's session a new congregation was organized at tboro. The name chosen was St. John's and the model con- ution was adopted. Application for admission into the Min- rium of Pennsylvania was authorized. President E. Fisher s present at the service of organization and also the Presi- t of the Norristown Conference, Rev. C. F. Brobst. The nber of names signed to the charter roll was sixty-eight the offering at the service was $872. There were 142 in ndance at the services of organization. The Rev. Orval C. rtman has been on the field since the first of the year. e Sunday School, however, was started in September of year and preaching services began the first Sunday in vember. Pastor Hartman will be called as the first pastor this promising congregation.

The progress at Hatboro is a good illustration of the help t a neighboring congregation can give to the mission enter- se. After the Synodical Mission Committee had been de- ed in entering the field because of the lack of ministers, the summer of 1948 St. Paul's Church, Telford, volun- red to sponsor a Sunday School if the Synodical Board uld find a place for the sessions. The banquet room in the sonic Temple was rented and a Sunday School opened in tember with 46 present. The teachers came from the Tel- d Church and the materials were provided by the spon- ing group. Five weeks after the sessions of the School had rted, preaching services were inaugurated with an attend- e of about 60. In December, negotiations were begun for purchase of a parsonage and ground for the future church lding, it having been well established by this time that a tor could not be secured if there was no place provided ere he could live.

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New York. An advantage in a growing suburban dis- t is that there is seldom any duplication of churches. Fur- rmore, as soon as the prospects in the immediate neighbor- od are all located there are always possibilities of finding spects in adjoining real estate developments. This is true the work of Rev. David A. Jensen at Norwich. Two of families living in Sidney, an adjoining development, have en very active in searching for new members with the re- t that the prospects are good for many members from this tion. If arrangements can be made a Sunday School will opened in this area. A building site has been selected in rwich where the attendance at services has shown an amaz- increase. Pastor Jensen unfortunately had to go to the spital for an operation shortly after Easter.

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Oregon. While it is very necessary that a home missionary must be a sincere evangelist if he is to do successful work, he will find that this qualification when taken alone is not enough to assure the building of a permanent Christian congregation. More and more our best workers are making a thorough study of the background of the members coming into a mission. This is done in the first place to ascertain what part the new member is best qualified to perform in the activities of the parish and in the second place to ascertain as far as possible the permanency of his stay in the community. Where the larger part of the members of a mission are dependent for their living upon one factory the young mission can be wrecked by the closing of the industry. A survey of employment provided in a given community thus becomes an important factor in determining the possibilities of establishing a successful congregation.

Pastor Paul W. Funk has been making such an analysis of the community in Seaside. While the average visitor might imagine that our Saviour's mission was primarily established to serve the visitors to this resort, they would be far from the truth. For this reason Pastor Funk's analysis of the situation is of special value. He definitely states that if the impression of the average visitor concerning this tourist center were correct there would be little chance of establishing a stable congregation. His analysis shows, however, that the greater part of the membership engages in occupations that are well established and permanent in their nature.

He found that fifteen families in the mission find their living in the logging industry. Six families are supported by members who are carpenters. Three families are engaged in the fishing industry. Three families own and operate tourist cabins. Three are engaged in office work and two of the women of the congregation are nurses in the local hospital. One family each is found in the following occupations: cranberry growing, trucking service, dairy farming, radio repair, school teaching, road construction, recreation, service station owner, auto repair service, butcher shop owner, golf course manager, and electrical contracting.

Pastor Funk draws certain conclusions from his study. (1) The congregation has more laboring men than small business and professional men; (2) More families are dependent upon year round industries than upon seasonal industries; (3) Although the tourist is emphasized and is more important in Seaside, yet logging plays a more important part in the income of the people of the congregation. We might remark that funerals seem to have a different effect here than in other parts of the West Coast. From four funeral services conducted for non-members by Pastor Funk, he secured new members from three of the families.

Ontario. An old proverb informs us that there is a sil-r lining to every cloud and this appears true in the emer-ncies that made it necessary to attach certain new fields older congregations. These emergencies were created in e first place by the lack of qualified ministers and in the cond place by the inflation which has so greatly increased e cost of everything that salaries are required that the Board nnot pay.

Many opportunities can only be seized in the Canada nod by attaching the mission to an organized congregation, d strange to say the older congregation usually takes on w life and grows as fast as the mission due undoubtedly the fact that with the help of the Board they have the ser-e of a pastor whom they could not support by themselves.

This situation is illustrated by the new St. Stephen's mis-n in Kitchener attached to St. Paul's at Bridgeport, creat-g a parish that was able to call the Rev. A. J. Baetz. St. phen's already has 91 members and will probably have re by the time the charter roll is closed with the formal ganization of the congregation. An unusual feature in this ssion is the predominance of men in the work. The attend-ce at church services on Sundays taxes the seating capacity the temporary quarters. The attendance at the established urch in Bridgeport is unusually good and continues to grow. e offerings also are improving. This congregation has no bts.

ST. STEPHEN'S, SHOEMAKER AVE., KITCHENER

New Jersey. In the first three months of 1949 the Good Shepherd mission at Glen Rock paid in full the apportionment which the New York Synod had assessed. Pastor Robert Arnold reports that $25 more than the amount required had been received and this the Council resolved to transmit also, thus overpaying the year's apportionment in three months.

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Ohio. One congregation that knows what it is to suffer from the evils of inflation that resulted from the world war is Holy Trinity in the Upper Arlington section of Columbus, where Rev. Joseph M. O'Morrow is the present pastor. The delay in starting to build before the outbreak of war was not the fault of the congregation. Certain parties back of the real estate development thought that by zoning restrictions the number and the location of churches could be restricted. It was necessary for the mission with the help of the general church to take the case from one court to another until finally the Supreme Court of the State decided in favor of the mission. By that time the world war was on in full force with rationing of all material for building. When the government once again permitted building for other than war purposes, all costs had arisen to such an extent that more funds had to be raised. In the meantime mission activities are hampered because there is no place to hold meetings near the area where the members of the congregation live. Now again when the bids came in it was found that prices had risen far above the war estimates. Bravely the congregation put on another campaign which resulted in cash receipts of $6,000 and 18 month pledges of $30,000. Plans are now underway for the erection of the church before the end of the year.

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Minnesota. During the first quarter of this year the work at St. Cloud was formally organized as a congregation of the Holdingford Parish which now consists of three congregations. Pastor Howard A. Rice reports that the benevolence of the new congregation averages $13.64 per member. In the report of the Treasurer of the Synod of the Northwest some other missions are listed as reaching a high per capita giving for benevolence; Fox Point contributed $19.91 per member; Mt. Zion, $17.55, and Good Shepherd, St. Louis Park, $14.45.

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Illinois. In the effort to strengthen rural congregations some aid is being given certain old parishes like the Olney-Dundas charge now served by Rev. H. C. Peterson. Although taken ill during Lent, the pastor was able to complete the visitation of every family in the two congregations and now has a list of a hundred prospects for membership.

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Effective Mission Work. The 60th Anniversary of the mmanuel Church at Meriden, Connecticut, Rev. George A. agedorn, pastor, was celebrated May 1st. This is one of e congregations served so successfully by Secretary Paul A. irsch before he entered general church work as the Secre- ry of the merged synod covering New York and the New ngland States. Dr. Kirsch found among his many friends the anniversary service six converts from Judaism whom had received into the church years ago. This fact is men- oned because there seems to be a general but very incorrect ea that Jewish converts seldom if ever remain faithful to e Christian faith. Here were people of that faith converted Christianity in the Lutheran Church and yet after many ars still faithful to the church. This is characteristic of the reater part of the Jewish converts to Christianity, many of hom are to be found in the ministry.

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New Mexico. One half of their quota for LWA was eceived by St. Timothy Mission following the nation-wide roadcast of "One Great Hour." Pastor C. L. Bergendorf re- orts that plans are being made to robe the children's choir.

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Wisconsin. The difficulties confronting our youngest ission in Milwaukee recounted in our last issue, will soon e at an end. The story of the solution of the problem will e found in the statement which we are reproducing from ne synodical paper.

GETHSEMANE BUILDS

to right: L. Anderson, A. Pearson, Mrs. ke. A. Fox, C. Swenson, Pastor P. Bishop, kelson, Pastor V. Wrigley, Pastor D. Shel-

nday, March 6, 1949, marked the nonies for the laying of the corner for Gethsemane Ev. Lutheran ch. Ground was broken Nov. 28, on the corner of W. Greenfield Elm Grove Rd., Milwaukee, Wis. unique in the history of North- west Synod to have a congregation as young as this one, organize and build a church before it is one year old. March 21, 1948, was organization day for the 116 charter members, who to date have held services in the base- ment of a private home and at present hold services in the Shady Nook School. Pastor Wrigley has brought the membership up to 136. The corner- stone services brought many old friends. Rev. Paul Bishop, President of the Synod of the Northwest, gave the invocation, read the Holy Scripture and dedication. Pastor Dwight Shel- hart led the prayer of consecration. Mr. O. A. Mickelson, who is building the church structure, presented the cornerstone and assisted Pastor Vic- tor Wrigley in setting it in the founda- tion. Before the copper box was sealed by Mr. L. Anderson, several articles were placed in it for posterity.

Kentucky. In a recent issue mention was made of the fact that more than one half of the members organizing the new mission at Erlanger were formerly non-Lutherans. Board Missionary Glenn Bolieck in a statement sent to the New York office recently gives additional information concerning the growth of this mission congregation. Pastor Bolieck very properly maintains that there are two classes of people in every community for which the missionary should seek. The first are those of the Lutheran faith who are without church connection because no Lutheran Church was to be found in the area in which they were living, and the second group is that large number to be found in every community who either have never been connected with any church or who have for many years been drifting away from all churchly connections.

Missionary Bolieck has followed this plan of procedure and as a result in his present mission congregation more than one half of the members are from a non-Lutheran background. Two-thirds of the church council at Erlanger were not Lutheran before they received instruction for membership in the mission. The Sunday School superintendent's name is M. Patrick Murphy which clearly indicates that he had formerly been connected with the same church in which Martin Luther had been brought up. The twelve members who formed the teams for the annual visitation of the congregation had nine members who had not been Lutherans until they had joined this mission. One of the fastest growing and most promising Sunday School classes is composed of teen age girls who before the coming of the mission had little knowledge and appreciation of the Lutheran church. One of the unexpected results of bringing these former non-Lutherans into the Lutheran church is the reaction of those members who had always been Lutheran. In place of resenting these newcomers they were all moved to greater activity by the enthusiasm displayed by these converts to the faith and practice of first and largest Protestant body in the world.

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California. It would appear that few Church members die in California, for the quarterly reports of the missionaries seem always to specify that the funerals reported were of non-members. Pastor Willis J. Forsyth reports an unusual number of such funerals which is not entirely surprising for our missionaries on the coast are superior men, especially when compared with those sent out for mission work by the denominations. In Redeemer at El Monte, Pastor Forsyth has some families who have just commenced attending church who were among the first contacted when he came there. It pays never to give up hope when seeking souls.

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Ohio. In the monthly report from Board Missionary ay Smith he states that an organization will be effected outh Mansfield before this issue reaches our readers. Some had already signed the charter roll when this report was tten. Pastor Smith in his monthly statement also tells of stimulating visit of Secretary Knudsen and his inspiring non which is still a topic of conversation.

This mission like so many others, has had difficulty in ring an acceptable building lot. It may seem strange to y but it frequently happens that the trouble encountered ecuring a proper location is caused by someone who hopes nake a profit out of the congregation's desire to obtain a ain location. However, the mission authorities have now essfully completed negotiations for a very desirable loca-

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Georgia. Local improvements have been made at Holy nity, Elberton, costing $682. The work was done in time the Lenten and Easter services. Pastor J. A. Sanders finds ouragement in the attitude of the unchurched and looks ward to receiving many into the church during the year.

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Maryland. Although Pastor Oscar W. Carlson finds their porary quarters utterly inadequate to accommodate the wds attending church and Sunday School at the Ascension sion, he has not slackened his efforts to secure more con- ts. The mission has met its quota for apportionment, also LWA and for the anniversary apportionment of the ULCA. addition $800 were raised for other benevolent causes. The gregation has $30,000 in its building fund and will build soon as prices are more reasonable.

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Alabama. Since the relocation of St. Paul's, Mobile, Pas- Baumgartner reports there are many visitors at the church rices. The Sunday School is growing so rapidly that the stion of space is becoming serious. The ministerial asso- ion of the city is planning to hold a great union Reforma- service this fall of all the Protestant churches and they e decided to secure a Lutheran speaker.

Our missionary has been surprised at the desire of the testant pastors for information concerning the Lutheran wardship program and one Presbyterian minister has been ing into the Lutheran liturgical service and is now re- nging his own service after this form. The City Park partment contributed shrubbery for the new property val- at $300.

Rocky Boy. Last month a brief statement was published concerning Pastor George B. McCreary's effort to secure a cow for our missionaries on the Indian Reservation at Rocky Boy, Montana. In a later issue of his parish bulletin another statement appeared which will be of interest to all who are anxious to assist our missionaries in their efforts to bring the gospel to the unsaved.

Any one who has lived in Wisconsin's beautiful dairyland does not have to search the Encyclopedia Brittanica to discover the useful purposes that the cow serves in the lives of human beings. When the news began to get around the parish that a cow was needed on the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation to supply fresh milk for the eight children of our two missionary families there, things began to happen among our members.

One family set up a little blue china cow and began depositing offerings for the Cow Fund. One little girl who was spending the week in bed with a cold cut out pictures of cows, pasted them on an offering box that she had made, and then deposited her earthly treasure (31 cents) to help get the cow for Rocky Boy.

The Rocky Boy Indian Reservation is a 90,000 acre wild flower garden set in the midst of the beautiful Bear Paw Mountains. It is a place to dream about, but there are not many people who want to go and live and work there. If 90 per cent of our country were to be destroyed by atomic bombs, Rocky Boy would probably be intact among the survivi 10 per cent. Dr. Samuel Johnson mig have found inspiration to write a bo about the beautiful mountains and valle of the Bear Paws, but he probably wou not have stayed very long.

The infant mortality rate is very hi at Rocky Boy. Tuberculosis is commo Pneumonia takes a heavy toll. O must always be careful to guard agai the germs that produce dysentery. the summer of 1946 there was one op pipe from which water was flowing fr a spring from which one could get sa drinking water.

When we think of the brave, fine peop who are living at Rocky Boy, doing t hard, slow work among the Indians, a facing the dangers of sickness that a so much commoner there, we feel th it should not take the rest of us very lo to solve their milk problem. There a a lot of people in this world who wou give more than a cow to avoid spendi the years of their lives at Rocky Bo

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Colorado. There is an old saying that "necessity is the mother of invention." This is demonstrated by the difficulties created by the inflation that has been increasing year by year. This situation has brought to light some new ideas in mission congregations that are compelled to build. Rev. J. G. Frank writes that Gloria Dei mission in Denver held a congregational meeting to discuss the erection of a church building. Out of twelve nominees, four were chosen as a Planning Committee. This Committee was assigned special duties by congregational action.

In the first place the Committee is to assist the Council in raising the funds required to build the new church. In the second place the Committee is to present the Council with an architectural study of a proposed building together with estimated costs by June 15th. To accomplish this, six sub-committees have been appointed numbering thirty members. One thing is certain, this congregation will have a building plan that has had more careful consideration than is usually given such plans.

North Carolina. The substantial gains reported in another two congregation mission parish would seem to indicate that there are some fields otherwise hopeless that could be successfully developed in connection with another field. The Shiloh-St. Luke's parish near Hickory is served by Rev. C. W. Harbinson. St. Luke's congregation recently completed a new church building which was used for services for the first time in March of this year. Although the building was designed to seat 250, there were over 350 present at the opening service. Dr. V. R. Cromer, President of Synod, preached the sermon at this special service. Many other prominent pastors and Presidents of Synodical Societies had a part in the festivities. The structure cost $20,000 and is complete with all furnishings including an oil furnace and Memorial Art windows. The church is on a main highway and the lot contains two and one half acres. The record for three months after entering the new church shows that the attendance at Sunday School is double the former record and the attendance at church services has increased almost fifty percent.

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Texas. There are some problems confronting a parish composed of two or more congregations that are unknown when a missionary has only one congregation to serve. In an effort to solve some of these problems, Pastor W. L. Lentz of the Port Lavaca-Tivoli parish holds joint council meetings each quarter to consider problems that arise out of two congregations forming one pastoral charge. A new schedule for Sunday services arranged by this joint council resulted in morning services being held in each congregation every Sunday. Salem congregations at Tivoli was the second highest in the Texas Synod in its over-subscription to the LWA quota for 1948.

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Arkansas. After two years of weary planning and waiting, Pastor Samuel W. Jensen joyfully reports that St. Luke's new church building has been completed and dedicated in the presence of a congregation that overflowed the building. The festivities included a week of special services in which the officers of Synod and other pastors took part.

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South Carolina. The two congregations in the suburbs of Columbia, served as a pastoral charge by Rev. J. V. Long, are developing in an encouraging manner. At Denny Terrace one of the active laymen, seeing the need for certain recreational features in connection with the organizations in the mission, donated most of the material and the men of the congregation donated the labor working at night and on Saturdays, in order to erect a parish hall.

A Layman's Message to a Mission

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[One of the priceless results of the home mission enterprise is the able laymen that are enlisted in the service of the church. Almost twenty years ago when Field Missionary Dwight L. Shellhart was just started on his magnificent work, he brought in the membership of his mission one Dr. L. V. Downing. Little did he realize what a power this man would become in the work of the Synod. In the present emergency he has taken over the duties of Missionary Superintendent for the Synod and there are many who wish that it were possible to retain him permanently as the first lay superintendent in the history of the church. In an address on one of his official visits to a mission he touched upon so many vital points that we are giving our readers the greater part of the address, omitting local references and paragraphs that would not apply to the church in general.]

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"In joining this thriving new Mission, you are all uniting in the Father's business. It isn't the business of this world. It is the business of loving concern, in Jesus Christ.

Look up the word business sometime in the dictionary or a book of synonyms. What will you find? That one of the closest synonyms is the word calling.

We as laymen you see, in joining the Church, are called into that calling which is the business or calling of Our Father in Heaven.

The formation of a congregation unites its members over against the world; yet only in order that they might identify themselves with the need and the hope of the world.

The congregation accepts the Word of God as the Truth as revealed through Jesus Christ, the Reconcilor of the world with God.

In this world there is little that we can tie or cling to. With spiraling inflation, many of you with fixed incomes find that the $1.00 of 1939 is now depressed to one-half of its former value. Savings, annuities all reflect depressing values. Values are forever fluctuating in material, worldly things. Lay up or depend not on those things that mold and corrupt. That molding and corruption is demonstrated in the fact that, this very day, 75¢ of every dollar paid to the Federal Government goes to pay for former wars, and to prepare for future wars. Modern man has become obsessed with the illusion that science explains everything whereas it only

scribes some things. Man acts as though he were the owner this planet instead of a guest of a few years. He forgets at social philosophies wax and wane, civilizations rise and ll, epochs come and go, because they all are built on the uilty of momentary mortal things.

But take heart for there is one sure thing that strides on ajestically — ever true — dependable — through Kingdom er Kingdom — down through the ages — God's promise at whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have erlasting Life. And He gave His only begotten Son — in ing concern, that we might believe and grow in Faith and ve everlasting Life.

Man, made of dust and divinity, is here to develop rough his years the quality of life with which he will end eternity. So if we live in eternity with the quality we termine here, we must live today with that quality that has in the Christian philosophy of life, holding life in the highest gard, practicing patience, good will and loving concern, be- ving that man's utmost must be crowned by something bet- . Believing that man at his fullest is but the instrument d channel of God's holy will, reflecting his loving concern, preparation for the life beyond. This type of person in e professions, in business, in education, in the home, in e at large, is the most dependable and useful man I know. the words of Elson Ruff, editor of the *Lutheran*, 'We be- me well-organized, effective personalities only as we sub- it ourselves to a power greater than ourselves and allow rselves to be governed by it as fully as possible.' This is e Christian philosophy of life. This Church, that you have ned today, is clearly obligated to prepare you to become ch personalities, if you will but submit yourselves to its achings, and become instruments of the eternal.

An official of the State Department was addressing a hamber of Commerce banquet in a small midwestern city. e was seated beside a lady who began to ask him very lead- g questions. His curiosity was aroused and he inquired, ave you ever worked for the State Department?' 'No,' she plied. 'Has your husband?' Again the answer was 'No.' ave either of you ever been in the diplomatic services?' o.' The State Department official was even more curious. Would you tell me what your connections are? I am most terested in your questions.' The lady replied, 'My husband ns a small business in this town, and I am the secretary the women's missionary society of my church.'

This woman through her Christian culture, and concern her Father's business throughout the world, astonished e Statesman with her knowledge of human relationships ound the world that he thought were only known to Gov- nments.

Perhaps we cannot do some things as well as others but as Laymen our loving concern and fidelity should be for our Father's business second to none.

We sometimes speak of the church as demanding this or that of us. It is in a sense truer, that deep down within us, we demand that the church do something for us. This profound spiritual longing is never satisfied short of the church. We are forgetful. We need to be reminded of what we were, what we are, and what we may yet become! It is wrong to belittle church attendance. It is wrong to say that one can worship anywhere. It isn't quite true that one may worship God in His great outdoors, in the woods, along the brook or on the lake, just as helpfully, as one can worship God within the church. It is good to praise God's handiwork, but there is no adequate substitute for public worship. The church and only the church, provides that loving concern for God and man. It provides for the sharing of one's life with the Eternal and draws us into loving concern for those things which are not seen. What other institution does this? Not one!

Up to this day you have been in what might be called boot-training, orientation, readiness for service. From now on you are communing members of this church, giving yourselves over to a new life, a life of service in the Lord's business.

Be diligent in that service, even a drab business meeting is important in His service. There cannot be a divided loyalty in the triumphant consummation of His cause, His business is the business of Eternity.

We all cannot be officers or leaders, but be quick to recall the glorious promise to be found in the vision of the psalmist who said, 'I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of My Lord.'

Dedicate yourselves to harmony in every step. Thus through harmony and loving concern we will move toward spiritual success.

Be enthusiastic about your Church as you grow in Faith. The world needs to know about the faith of the Christian and needs to hear about it from you and me, the non-professional you might say. And it will; for the Christian who has the conviction that Jesus is God, who has found an intimate and personal contact with the living spirit of Christ, will also have an enthusiasm in expressing it. Jesus entrusted the preaching of his Gospel to his disciples and the seventy; all of them laymen as we would say today; none of them particularly outstanding in anything but faith and enthusiasm.

Be quick to engage in welfare and social work so that you can be a testimony in Christian personality; move beyond and behind relief work to tackle the causes that make

such work necessary, but with a viewpoint different from that of the government. Declare moral and spiritual principles which may serve as plumb lines for social thinking and action. To inspire and instruct individual Christians and groups to apply Christian principles in all their relationships. Keep above the grime of partisan politics but not remote from the human struggle. Thus by laying the mind of Christ radiantly alongside the sordidness and greed of this earth men, tortured by the difference, will rise up to insist that peace on earth and good will to men will become everlasting, not an empty phrase."

An Aspiration

OUT OF THE upward-reaching heart of man have grown dreams and visions and ideals. Often man has used his ski'l to make his dreams come true. But however close to them he has approached, his heart has gone on dreaming of things higher still » »

We know that perfection is a goal that runs swiftly before us, but always evades us. While we struggle to grow, we live in imperfection. Our aspirations, though never attained, gauge and measure the quality of the soul more than all its mistakes and failures.

Hence, to look out upon the astonishing universe with eyes unblinking and face unblanched; to ignore no truth and fear no facts; to build high hopes upon a firm foundation; to forgive without demanding apology; to keep affection in spite of misunderstanding; to set our thought upon the things of value, and spend our strength in the fulfilling of noble purposes; to reverence the good intentions of others rather than censure their errors; to be alert to nature's pageantry, though we dwell amid the city's clamor; to get the most out of life by right living, and give the most we can back to the world; to be sincere, faithful to responsibility, cherishing honor above indulgence, and service above gain; to be guided in our conduct by the shining angel of Faith in God, and not by the gaunt spectre of Fear; to approach our last hour with the calm of a philosopher and the gentleness of a saint; to leave the world enriched by a treasury of kind deeds and a memory of love—this is an aspiration; this is an ideal » » —Source Unknown.

By the Way

"The worst wheel of the cart makes the most noise," once said Ben Franklin.

Nothing is really work unless you would rather do something else.

Successful men and firms are often those who just get started at one of the points where others give up.

Icelandic. The Board has been supporting English Synodical papers in Northwestern Canada in order to assist the transition to English. From the Parish Messenger, the organ of the Icelandic Evangelical Lutheran Synod we reprint a portion of an article on Iceland which appeared recently in this paper and also an article by Dr. Marteinsson who was a fellow student with the editor at the Chicago Lutheran Seminary in 1896.

The first thing that will impress the traveller on arrival in Iceland, if he comes there by plane, is the Keflavik Airport, about 35 miles out of Reykjavik, the capital. This airport is said to be one of the largest in the world. It is indeed, not an Icelandic creation, but was carved out of a most uninhabitable wilderness of lava and volcano rock by American Army engineers. On this field there are four runways, each about a mile long, all asphalted or macademized. All the principal airways of Europe and America, including Trans Canada Airlines, stop there on their runs to and from Europe. Sometimes there are as many as twenty planes a day, serviced at this airbase.

Another thing which impresses the casual tourist in Iceland is the size and appearance of its capital, Reykjavik, which literally means Smoky Bay. A half century ago this was a little straggling village, consisting principally of frame buildings. Now it has grown into a modern little metropolis with a multitude of wide streets, and brick and cement buildings of ultra modern design. It is said that there are six thousand automobiles in this city of some fifty thousand inhabitants, and to complicate matters for the repair man, they are of over seventy different makes, representing practically all models, European and American. If you come to Reykjavik on a sunny day, you will marvel at how clear the air is, and free from all dust and smoke. You look around and notice to your astonishment, that great many of the houses, and practically all the new ones, are minus a chimney. This is caused by the central heating system, which is unique. Ten and a half miles distant from the city there is a fountain of boiling water, and this is led into seven circular cement storage tanks up on a hilltop east of the city, whence it decends by gravity

into the streets below. When it flows from the tap in the bathroom or kitchen it is fifteen degrees below boiling. The supply at present is sufficient to heat and otherwise serve the needs of about 84 percent of the householders. It is estimated that this hot water system saves up to forty thousand tons of coal annually, and it makes Reykjavik one of the cleanest cities you can ever hope to visit.

The Icelanders of today live very comfortably and maintain a high standard of cultural life. The nation has two great passions, one is for independence, which they have recently achieved after almost seven hundred years of foreign dominion; the other is for learning. The number of bookstores is really amazing. In Reykjavik alone there are between thirty and forty, one for approximately every twelve hundred people, and they all seem to do thriving business. Radio receiving sets are in practically every home, and commercial advertising is conspicuously absent from the programs. There are numerous movie houses, and practically all movies are given in English without an explanatory translation. But that the dialogues are easily understood by the theatre goers is quite evident by their quick reaction to jokes and scenes of humor. The Icelanders are good linguists, and that by necessity. They have to do business with many countries, and few of their customers take the trouble to learn the Icelandic language,

Many of the soldiers on arrival in Iceland, noting the barren soil and the treeless countryside around Reykjavik, asked the question: What do these people live by? The answer is: By dairy farming and fishing. Farming sustains the domestic economy and fish and fish produce sustain the foreign trade. Iceland cannot exist without imports, and fish is her only exportable wealth.

Apart from the fish, which is Iceland's chief export, she exports mutton, frozen and salted, wool, sheepskin furs and eider down. With these items of export she must purchase food chemicals, rubber, wood, paper, minerals and metals and miscellaneous commodities. Her utilization of hot water has already cut down to a large extent her importation of coal.

CAN WE NOT FIND BETTER NAMES?

Can we not find a more suitable name for our women's organization than Ladies' Aid? When our Icelandic Churches in this Western Hemisphere formed such societies, we called them Kvenfelag, which means women's society, a perfectly proper name; but when we became anglicized, the current English Ladies' Aid found acceptance without particular thought about its suitability. What then is my objection? In the first place, it is pretentious. Why not women? In that respect at least the men's organizations are superior. We have a men's club, and nobody suggests calling them gentlemen's clubs. One society in the United Lutheran Church calls itself the Women's Missionary Society, not Ladies' Missionary Society. That is really a beautiful name. I wish every femnine organization called itself a missionary society, at least in the churches. Does that not properly describe their work? Their work is missions, missions of word and work. Another objection I have to the common name is its bad English. The full name is ladies' aid society, and that of course is correct language. The word "aid", though a noun, is used there as an adjective, but when, as is frequently done, the word society is thrown out, we have really nothing, no name at all. The worst of all happens when people are speaking of the two aids (the two helps) the Junior Aid and the Senior Aid. That is an abomination in my ears.

Out on the West Coast, a better name was found for the Women's organization of the Icelandic Lutheran Church: Women's Auxiliary of (followed by the name of the congregation.) True, this came from the Anglicans, but what is the objection to that if the name is suitable?

I would like to see the women of our churches look into these suggestions and try to find a more suitable name for their organizations.

Another thoroughly objectionable name to my taste is the expression "church parlors" I have no doubt that there may be churches with parlors, but personally I have never seen one. When people speak ot church parlors they mean a hall for meetings and social purposes. A perfectly suitable name came from the West

Coast this Winter, in the Parish Messenger. The name is: church hall; some such name should be adopted.

I know the names I have mentioned are not matters of supreme importance; but why not exercise good taste and common sense?

All names should truthfully express what they are supposed to represent.

How about giving the matter some thought?

R. MARTEINSSON.

My Little Vine

ONCE I PLANTED a vine beside a trellis. How carefully I tended the little sprout, watering it and teaching the tendrils to twine about the slats. Warmed by the strong sun, and nourished by the refreshing rain, the vine grew, and little by little climbed halfway up the trellis.

But one dark night there came a storm. The wind blew furiously, and the rain fell in torrents. The next morning, when I looked at the little vine, it was lying prone on the ground, half submerged in muddy water.

Then what did I do? I stooped down and tenderly lifted the fallen vine out of the mire, and twined it carefully about the trellis again. In places I fastened its tendrils to the slats with pieces of soft string, and it began to hold up its head once more. Then I watched it grow day by day, and observed with pleasure that the vine I had lifted up was taking a fresh hold. Warmed by the genial rays of sunshine, it gave renewed promise of a strong plant, and I was happy.

Do I ever think to be as considerate of my fellow men—the men and women who suffer, and weep, and waver, and fall—as I was of that little vine, that knew neither pain nor pleasure? Am I as eager to lift up my brother man who has fallen low? Let us give men and women, with undying souls, as fair a chance to begin life over as we would an insignificant plant. —Author unknown.

"I try to fix my thought on the good that is in every soul, and make my appeal to that, and the plan is a wise one, judged by results. It secures for you loyal helpers, worthy friends; gets the work done, aids digestion, and tends to sleep o' nights. I do not believe in governing by force or threat, or any other form of coercion. I would not arouse in the heart of any of God's creatures a thought of fear, or discord, or hate, or revenge. I will influence men, if I can, but only by aiding them."

Mrs. Oscar C. Schmidt
1527 W. Erie AVE
Philadelphia, Pa.
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The Board's 1949 Training Schools for Home Missionaries

The first announcement concerning the three Summer Schools was mailed to all missionaries on salary aid with the November, 1948 checks, the second announcement with the February salary checks, the third announcement with the March salary checks.

All correspondence relating to the Summer Schools should be addessed to Assistant Executive Secretary P. A. Kirsch at the New York office.

The Faculties for the Schools will be:

Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, near Stroudsburg, Pa., *July 9 - 16*, the Rev. A. C. M. Ahlen, Ph.D., professor-elect of the Northwestern Seminary; the Rev. William R. Seaman, S.T.D., Pastor Emmanuel Church, Souderton, Pa.; the Rev. Harry J. Kreider, Ph.D., Pastor of St. James' Church, Ozone Park, N. Y.; and Sister Evelyn Houlroyd; Staff Secretaries Gerberding, Knudsen, and Henry, who will be the dean.

Mount Hermon, California, *July 17 - 23*, the Rev. Charles B. Foelsch, Ph.D., D.D., pastor Holy Trinity Church, New York City; the Rev. George W. Miley, D.D., President of the Ohio Synod; Staff Secretaries Gerberding and Bowman, who will be the dean.

Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, near Stroudsburg, Pa., *August 20 - 27*, the Rev. Frederick R. Knubel, D.D., LL.D., President of the New York Synod; Dr. James C. Kinard, President of Newberry College; the Rev. Fred C. Wiegman, D.D., Pastor of Trinity Church, Akron, Ohio; the Rev. Harry J. Kreider, Ph.D., Pastor St. James' Church, Ozone Park, N. Y.; Staff Secretaries Gerberding, Bowman, Henry and Kirsch, who will be the dean.

Pastors of self-supporting congregations will be welcomed at the Schools as far as accommodations can be provided.